[This transcript was created by LAI staff. It is as true a representation of the original as we could create. When a word was too difficult to decipher or was questionable we put those words in brackets. All text in brackets represents the voice of the transcriber rather than the voice of the letter writer. We have not maintained the spacing that exists in the original letters because that was not compliant with our accessibility standards. We are left justifying most lines.]

[citation information]
Collection title: Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art directors' records
Collection number: COR-0002-0-RG
Series 1: MacLeod, Barbarin and McGuire records
Subseries 1: Indexed correspondence
Box 2008-001
Folder 53: Letters 521-530

[This folder contains two separate letters scanned under (521)]

[Front of Letter 521 #1]
Brucciani D., London Feb 17. 1875
March 5/75 [it is assumed there are two replies to this letter on March 5]
With regard to statue of David. Price of Statue £100. Price of Bust £12.12.

[Letter 521 #1]

[Letterhead of Galleria Delle Belle Arti., 40, Russell Street, Covent Garden, London 17th Feb, 1875]

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter of the [1st?] inst enclosed you will find a rough sketch of the Statue of David by M. Angelo. with size which is 17 feet high from plinth to top of head and the plinth is 5 feet by 3 ft 5 inches.

The price of the Statue well packed and baled is £100''0''0. The price of the Bust is £12''12''0 packed.

Trusting to receive an order for these I will send a beautiful cast as I have now one in stock quite dry for sending

With respectful compliments.

I remain Your Obedient Servant

D. Brucciani

W. MacLeod Esq, Corcoran Gallery of Art Washington.

[Enclosed Sketch of M. Angelo with Letter 521 #1]

[Front of Letter 521 #2]
Walters, W.T., Balt. March 3/75
March 4/75
With regard to “Kaemmerer” & “Ziem”

[Letter 521 #2]

Balto 3rd March 75
Mr. W. MacLeod

Dear sir

Messr Knoedler & Co will send on approval two pictures by “Ziems” + “Kaemmerer” both fine examples the latter a very artistic and original treatment, the beach at “[Scheveningen?] on the Holland Coast”, Mr. Riggs saw and liked them very much -

Henry Peters Gray also wanted to send a work of his just finished to which I replied there would be no objection - on approval of course and no committal of course beyond this in either of the cases,

Your friend
WT. Walters

[Front of Letter 522]
Walters W.T., Balt. March 6/75
March 8/75
Statue of David too high. better order the Bust. Encloses papers from Lucas. Value of Stuarts picture.

[Letter 522]

Balto 6th March 75
Mr MacLeod

Dear Sir

The entire statue of David would be too high for us of course -

Please say to Mr Riggs I think it would be well to order the “Bust” at once it is I think the finest part of the statue - I will be down in a few days if Mr. Riggs has returned.

Have the pictures arrived from Knoedler & Co? -

I enclose some papers from Lucas about the “Stuart”, the value is entirely a fancy matter - better let Mr. Corcoran negotiate about the fixing up and sale of it -

In regard to the price I have really not thought of the matter - but when I go down will talk to you about it which I would prefer to writing - what does the owner ask for it? - have you heard?

Your friend
WT. Walters

[Front of Letter 523]
Walters, W.T., Balt Mar 10.1875
Mar 11/75
Encloses letter from S.P. Avery ordering Electros reproductions from G. Franchi. List of Reproductions ordered.

[There are two letters with enclosures within Letter 523]
[Letter 523 and enclosures are scanned out of order]

[Enclosed Copy of order for Reproductions for Letter 523 #1]

[Letter 523 #1]

Mar 9
Dear Mr Walters

I enclose copy of the order which I gave to Corcoran Gallery last summer.

I have the original here + from it can make out from the Catalogues full descriptions of the articles, if Franchi fails to do so as I have requested. It was a matter of some doubt as to whether all of the articles could be obtained.

Hastily yours
Sam P Avery

[Letter 523 #2]

Mr. MacLeod

I forgot to hand you enclosed today when I gave you the list of things -

Your friend,
WT. Walters
Balto 10th March

[Enclosed copy of letter from S.P. Avery Art Rooms]

[Letterhead of S.P. Avery Art Rooms, 88 Fifth Ave near 14th St.]
from London, July 1874

Mr. G. Franchi,

Dear Sir,

I have been authorized by the Trustee's of the "Corcoran Gallery of Art" at Washington, D.C. through Mr. W.T. Walters and Mr. Geo. W. Riggs trustee and treasurer; to order from you a number of reproductions in Electro. +c. from objects of art in the Museum at Kensington; and having made choice with your assistance, of the articles as per schedule you have sent me, with their prices attached amounting to Six Hundred and Forty Seven pounds Four shillings £647.4.0. I hereby commission you to reproduce the articles named, to be done in your best manner and at an early a day as is consistent with perfect work. When the objects are ready for shipment please notify Mr. Riggs treasurer, Corcoran Gallery [+c?]. who will remit the amount and give you directions how to ship them.

The trustees saw the collection which you made for the "Metropolitan Museum of Art" and were perfectly satisfied with your work, as well as with their artistic value as studies in our educational point of view. I can say the same for the various pieces you have done for me during the past seven years.

In regard to the St. Patrick Bell and Sceptre of Anne Boleyn - please make application to the proper authorities for them, subject of course to the same conditions imposed in such cases. Should it be necessary the Trustees will make a more formal and official request.

S.P.A.

[Front of Letter 524]

Walters, W.T., Balt. Mar 11. 1875
Mar 11/75 (Telegram)
Mr. Avery's pictures to be sent to Phila:

[Letter 524]

[Telegram Blank from Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Co., Franklin Division]
11:05am, Mch 11, 1875
By Telegraph from: Balto Md 11
To: W MacLeod, Corcoran Gallery

Avery will write you to send his things to Phila don't ship until you hear

WT Walters

[Front of Letter 525]
Hope, James, Watkins N.Y. March 6, 1875
Mar 8/75, Mar 9/75
Asks that his picture "Rainbow Falls" be packed & shipped to Baltimore.

[Letter 525]

Watkins N.Y. March 6th 1875

Wm McLeod Esq

Dear Sir

If you do not see me down in Washington by Tuesday March 9th, then please have my picture of "Rainbow Falls" taken down and packed, and forwarded on Wednesday the 10th, to (Messrs Myers & Hedian 46 North Charles Street, Baltimore Md.) ship it at the Northern Central freight office as the Freight Agent there has order to ship it free. So have it duly reported to him. I shall probably be down myself, but may be prevented by something.

Yours Truly
James Hope

[Front of Letter 526]
Gebbie & Barrie, Phila, Feb. 4. 1875
Feb 5. 1875
Price of Art Journal, $300 (conditionally.)

[Letter 526]

[Letterhead of Gebbie & Barrie, Publishers, Booksellers & Importers, No. 730 Sansom Street]
Philadelphia, Feby. 4 1875

Dr. McLeod, Washington

Dear Sir,

By this post we send to you a copy of our latest catalogue, in which we hope you will find many books you want.

In the matter of the "Art Journal" up to 1873, ½ [illegible] we will sell you our copy for $300.00 (not $350) on condition that you will give us Custom House affidavit so that we may import either another copy, or something of equal value. If you cannot give us said affidavit (and we know if would be perfectly legal for you to do so) we could not sell for less than $350.00: part of the book is by law not subject to import duty (being printed over 20 years) else we could make a larger reduction than $50.00.

Yours Truly
Gebbie & Barrie

[Front of Letter 527]
Sand, Max E., Gilles Jos & Cos., New York Mar 8/75
Mar 9/75, Mar 9/75
Enclosed photo of Bust of Napoleon of B.F. price $1500.

[Letter 527]

[Letterhead of Joseph Gilles & Co., No. 91 Front St. P.O. Box 2366]
New York 8th March 1875

Dear Sir,

At the suggestion of Mr. R. W. Hubbard, I send you enclosed photographs of a bust of the first Napoleon, which I think would be a valuable acquisition to a gallery like yours.

The bust in question was imported some thirty or more years ago from Italy. It is an original work and bears the initials of the sculptor [B.F.?], but the papers having been lost or destroyed I have not been able to ascertain his name. A duplicate of this bust - one of a group of the whole Bonaparte family, was a few years ago + probably still is in the

Gallery of a branch of the Bonaparte family in a Villa on the Lake of Como. The size of the head is 30 ½ inches in circumference + the height of the bust 23 inches the price $1500 - If you think favorably of the bust, I shall very gladly furnish you with all the facts necessary to establish the fact of its authenticity.

I remain Respectfully Yours
Max E. Sand

Mr. McLeod, Curator Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

[Front of Letter 528]
Phila. Mar 9. 1875
Mar 10/75
Order for $12. recvd. for Spooners Dictionary.

[Letter 528]

[Letterhead of Gebbie & Barrie, Publishers, 730 Sansom Street]
Philadelphia, Mar 9 1875

Dr Macleod

Dear Sir,

Your favor with money order for twelve dollars received and placed to credit.

We are sorry that you are dissatisfied with the binding of Spooner: it is a misfortune under which we labor in this city: good binders + finishers, but poor lettering. If we can do anything to make the work more satisfactory to you - please let us know.

Yours truly
Gebbie & Barrie

[Front of Letter 529]
Knoedler & Cos., New York Mar 2. 1875
To Mr. Walters
Will send the Kaemmerer & Ziem to the Gallery. Price of Kaemmerer $3500. Price of Ziem $2250.

[Letter 529]

[Letterhead of Goupil & Co., M. Knoedler & Co. Successors, Publishers and Dealers in Works of Art]
170 Fifth Avenue, New York, March 2nd 1875

W. T. Walters, Esq., Baltimore

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind suggestion to send the Kaemmerer and Ziem on approval to the Corcoran Art Gallery, which I am most willing to do. I intend forwarding the two pictures to-morrow by Rail Road, and would beg to ask, whether it would be advisable to write Mr. Riggs about it, or whether you prefer doing that yourself. The price of the Kaemmerer which is $4000 will be $3500 - for the Corcoran, the Ziem to be lowest [2250?]. Mr. Knoedler has a letter from Ziem about this very picture wherein Z. states, that this, he considers one of his best and most successful works.

[note at bottom of first page]
regular price of Ziem $2750

In case the pictures should not prove acceptable, I would be greatly obliged for their early return, for it seems that of late a little better demand for work of art has arisen.

With many thanks for your kind remembrance, believe me to be always

Your obedt.
[Jul-Oehme?]

[Enclosed Pall Mall Gazette article typed in French - "Ziem A Venise"]

[Front of Letter 530]
Avery, S.P., New York, Feb 11, 1875
To Mr Walters
List of prices asked for the pictures sent to the C.G.of A.

[Letter 530]

[Letterhead of S.P. Avery Art Rooms, 88 Fifth Ave. near 14th St.]
New York Feby 11th 1875

My Dear Mr. Walters.

I enclose memorandum of the five pictures sent to the Corcoran Gallery for the consideration of the trustees. They are the most effective things I have for a public

gallery, representing as they do the French Belgian and German Schools, the subjects are varied and interesting to the public - and if I remember quite unlike any in your collections in Washington - but even of more value than the subjects I consider that as masterly examples of painting they would be very useful - for it should not be the aim merely to collect subjects to amuse the public, but to present five models of execution for the benefit of artists and for the artistic cultivation of the public mind. I must confess that in my endeavor to show healthy art that I have gone beyond the taste of general buyers for the pretty, boudoir style of work and subject, and therefore are willing to sell these pictures at prices just to clear cost. I give the cost paid in [frames?] adding 25 per cent, for the gold, the duty, the freight, packing and other expenses, then I put a price that I will sell each one separately for, and finally offer to take for the five paintings $8000 being 250$ less than cost.

The Breton, was exhibited in the Salon of 1870 - it was sold to a person in Brussels, today, as you know he gets 20 or 25,000 [illegible]. The [Lagye?] was in the exhibition of Brussels, he is a leading artist in the Belgian Schools + a pupil of Baron Leys. The Valerio, has often been [exposed?] and is a well known work, he is a pupil of Charlet, he has devoted himself to painting a life and costumes fast passing away in Europe. The Wagner, was in the Vienna Ex. He is a German of the School of [Weimer?]. The Goupil, was in Salon of 73. and obtained him a medal - though only called “A Young Citizen of the First Republic” this meaning was the [Dauphin?], child of Louis XVI, this gave a sad and semi-historic character to it.

Thanking you to submit these paintings with any offer to your [conferees?] I remain
Sincerely yours

Sam P. Avery

[Enclosed handwritten list of paintings and prices]

	cost in frames	25 p.cent	cost here	will sell
Breton	17,5000	for expenses	$ 4,375	4,500
[Lagye?]	4,500	“ “	1,125	1,200
Valerio	4,500	“ “	1,125	1,200
Wagner	4,000	“ “	1,000	1,100
Goupil	2,500	“ “	625	700